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Rao Bahadur C. NATESA MUDALIYAR:—" May I know, Sir, to what communities and districts these lady students, whose applications for admission were rejected, belong? "

The hon. Diwan Bahadur S. KUMARASWAMI REDDIYAR:—" Notice."

Mr. ABDUL HAMEED KHAN:—" In view of the fact that education of women has not advanced to such an extent as to enable the Government to have a high standard prescribed for admission, will the Government consider the advisability of instructing the Principal not to insist upon this very high standard? "

The hon. Diwan Bahadur S. KUMARASWAMI REDDIYAR:—" I shall communicate the suggestion to the Director of Public Instruction."

Mr. V. T. ARASU:—" May I know, Sir, what are the causes that have brought about this decline in the number of the students of this college? "

The hon. Diwan Bahadur S. KUMARASWAMI REDDIYAR:—" It has been explained in the answer. The decline is not so serious as my hon. Friend seems to think. But the causes of the decline such as it exists have been explained in the answer."

Decline in the strength of the Queen Mary's College, Madras.

* 328 *Q.*—Mr. BASHEER AHMED SAYEED: Will the hon. the Minister for Education and Excise be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether it is a fact that since 1931 there has been a fall in the strength of the Queen Mary's College; if so, what the reasons therefor are;

(*b*) whether any representations have been made to the Government by the authority of the college in regard to the limited accommodation for natural science section and the absence of facilities for the B.Sc. course in Natural Science; and

(*c*) if so, what steps have been taken by the Education Department to afford these facilities in the said college?

A.—(*a*) The strength of the college in recent years has been as follows:—

March 1931	186
March 1932	237
March 1933	214
July 1933	204

The smaller strength in 1933 compared to the previous year was due to a fall in the number of applicants for admission to courses in History and Economics.

(*b*) & (*c*) The desirability of providing more accommodation in the Natural Science section of the Intermediate course and of organizing the B.Sc. course in the college was mentioned by the Principal in the report on the working of

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the institution in 1932–33. No action was taken on these suggestions, primarily because an expansion of the facilities for instruction in Science subjects is necessarily expensive; nor can such expansion be considered urgent as no applicant for admission into the Intermediate Natural Science section of the college was rejected in July 1933 for want of accommodation and as students of the college are admitted without difficulty in the B.Sc. (Pass) and B.Sc. (Hons.) courses of the Presidency College.

Mr. V. T. Arasu :—" Will the hon. the Minister tell us whether the decline in the strength of the college from 237 in March 1932 to 204 in July 1933 is due to the fact that the Principal is becoming unpopular with the students?"

The hon. Diwan Bahadur S. Kumaraswami Reddiyar :—" It is not so, Sir. The answer explains the cause of this."

Rao Bahadur C. Natesa Mudaliyar :—" Is not this college to be kept as an ideal college, being a Government college, to educate lady students? Why should the Government say then that to have a science section would be expensive?"

The hon. Diwan Bahadur S. Kumaraswami Reddiyar :—" To provide fresh accommodation would certainly be expensive. You may say it is desirable to have this additional accommodation, but it is expensive."

Mr. Yakub Hasan :—" The hon. the Minister said that there is a certain percentage of marks fixed for admission to Government colleges. Will the hon. Minister ask the Director of Public Instruction to relax that rule in the case of women students?"

The hon. Diwan Bahadur S. Kumaraswami Reddiyar :—" I told Mr. Hameed Khan that I would communicate this suggestion to the Director of Public Instruction for such action as he deems fit."

Rao Bahadur C. Natesa Mudaliyar :—" It is stated that these lady students can get admission into the Presidency College. Am I to understand that the orthodox Hindus and Muslims should go to the Presidency College and study side by side with boy students?"

The hon. Diwan Bahadur S. Kumaraswami Reddiyar :—" In the absence of any accommodation in the Queen Mary's College, they have to do only that."

Rao Bahadur C. Natesa Mudaliyar :—" May I know whether the hon. Minister for Education wants the Muslim and other orthodox Hindu lady students not to go in for studies in B.Sc. courses?"

The hon. Diwan Bahadur S. Kumaraswami Reddiyar :—" I am not asking them to give up studying for the B.Sc. course, nor are the Government going to compel them to go to the Presidency College. If they are really keen about it, they may go there and study."

* Mr. A. Ranganatha Mudaliyar:—"Arising out of the anwer of the hon. Minister that lady students might sit side by side with boys and young men, might not orders be issued that the lady pupils should be provided separate accommodation in the classes in the Presidency College?"

The hon. Diwan Bahadur S. Kumaraswami Reddiyar:—"I want notice of that. I do not know exactly what the position is."

Industries

Sale of the Government Ink Factory.

* 329 *Q*.—Diwan Bahadur A. Appadurai Pillai: Will the hon. the Minister for Education and Excise be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether the equipment for the manufacture of printing inks, and the recipe connected therewith, have been sold by the Government;

(*b*) if so, to whom, when and at what price;

(*c*) whether the intended sale was duly advertised in the papers and in the Gazette, and tenders called for either by the Government or the Director of Industries; and

(*d*) if not, why was this procedure dispensed with?

A.—(*a*) Yes.

(*b*) In May 1933, the Government permitted the Director of Industries to accept the offer of one Mr. B. K. S. Choudari for the purchase of the entire assets for Rs. 5,000.

(*c*) Yes; by the issue of a Press Communiqué, dated 4th June 1932.

(*d*) Does not arise.

Mr. T. S. Ramaswami Ayyar:—"May I know what the loss to the Government is by this transaction?"

The hon. Diwan Bahadur S. Kumaraswami Reddiyar:—"If it is in capital value, I want notice."

Mr. K. P. Raman Menon:—"Was this sale well advertised?"

The hon. Diwan Bahadur S. Kumaraswami Reddiyar:—"It was. The Press Communiqué was published in the Gazette and in the newspapers."

Mr. K. P. Raman Menon:—"How long after that publication was the sale held?"

The hon. Diwan Bahadur S. Kumaraswami Reddiyar:—"Notice."